

# **"YOGAPITHA"**

**THE APPEARANCE PLACE OF LORD SRI CAITANYA  
MAHAPRABHU (NIMAI)  
AT "SRI ANTARDVIPA" ISLAND OF SRI NAVADVIPA-MAYAPUR  
DHAMA**



**LORD SRI CAITANYA MAHAPRABHU**

*krsna-varnam tvishakrishnam  
sangopangastra-parshadam*

## ***yajnaiḥ sankīrtana-prayair yajanti hi sumedhasaḥ***

*kṛṣṇa-varṇam* — repeating the syllables kṛṣṇa; *tviṣa* — with a luster; *akṛṣṇam* — not black (golden); *sa-anga* — along with associates; *upā-anga* — servitors; *astra* — weapons; *parsadam* — confidential companions; *yajnaiḥ* — by sacrifice; *sankīrtana-prayair* — consisting chiefly of congregational chanting; *yajanti* — they worship; *hi* — certainly; *su-medhasaḥ* — intelligent persons

**“In the age of Kali, intelligent persons perform congregational chanting and worship the incarnation of Godhead who constantly sings the name of Krishna. Although His complexion is not blackish, He is Krishna Himself. He is accompanied by His associates, servants, weapons, and confidential companions.”** [Srimad Bhagavatam 11.5.32]

**Antardvīpa:** “*Antar*” means ‘secret’ and ‘*dvīpa*’ means ‘island’, and this island is where Lord Krishna revealed His internal secret feelings about His future appearance as Lord Caitanya.

**Yogapīṭha:** Yogapīṭha is the actual site of Lord Caitanya’s appearance. In 1893, Bhaktivinoda Thakura established this site. He personally collected funds to purchase this land and built a small temple here. This was completed in 1906 at which time he called the Deities of Gaura-Narayana and His two wives, Srimatī Laxmī Devī Thakurāṇī and Srimatī Viṣṇupriyā Thakurāṇī. Śrīla Bhaktivinoda Thakura’s son and spiritual successor, Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvatī Thakura, built the present Temple in 1934. It was inaugurated on *Gaura-Purnima* day in 1935.

## **THE APPEARANCE OF LORD CAITANYA**

It was 1486 in the month of Phalguna (Feb-Mar) and Navadvīpa-Mayapur vibrated in a tumultuous sound of chanting of **“HARI! HARI!”** which penetrated the entire material universe and heralded the appearance of Supreme Personality of Godhead. It was lunar eclipse and everyone, even the most impious and atheists who had never chanted the name of Krishna, found themselves going to Ganga and chanting “HARI! HARI!” as if impelled by some imperceptible force. By His own sweet will, the Supreme Lord, who incarnated as Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu to inaugurate *Harinam Sankīrtan* movement, appeared in the midst of the loud chanting of His own names:

**HARE KRISHNA HARE KRISHNA KRISHNA KRISHNA HARE HARE  
HARE RAMA HARE RAMA RAMA RAMA HARE HARE**

Nilambara Cakravartī, Sachīmata’s father, saw 32 divine symbols on the body of his grandson. He read astrological calculations for the time of birth but became more overwhelmed the more he tried to explain the unlimited glories he saw in the chart. An elevated saintly person was present dressed as brahmana. He predicted, “This child is the Supreme Lord, Narayana Himself. He will establish the essence of all religion. He will initiate a wonderful preaching movement and deliver the whole world. Even stubborn atheists will worship His feet.”

Sachīmata named her new son **Nimai** because He was born under a *neem* tree. The ladies named Him **Gaurahari** because of His beautiful golden complexion. And His

her named Him **Gauranga**. When Nimai was six months old, Sachimata noticed divine  
s on His lotus feet. Seeing this Nilambara Cakravarti immediately called all brahmanas  
and held a festival for Nimai's *nama-karana* (name-giving) ceremony. Recalling  
extraordinary predictions in his grandson's chart, he said, "In the future this child will  
protect and maintain the whole world. For this reason He is to be called **Visvambhara**."



**"YOGAPITHA" -  
APPEARANCE PLACE OF LORD SRI CAITANYA MAHAPRABHU (NIMAI)**





**MAIN GATE TO "YOGAPITHA"**



**"YOGAPITHA" ENTRANCE**





**THE RESIDENCE OF NIMAI -  
BABY NIMAI IN THE LAP OF HIS MOTHER SRIMATI SACHI DEVI AND HIS  
FATHER SRIMAN JAGANNATHA MISRA**



**THE RESIDENCE OF NIMAI -  
BABY NIMAI IN THE LAP OF HIS MOTHER SRIMATI SACHI DEVI AND HIS  
FATHER SRIMAN JAGANNATHA MISRA**



**BABY NIMAI IN THE LAP OF HIS MOTHER SRIMATI SACHI DEVI AND HIS FATHER SRIMAN JAGANNATHA MISRA**





**RESIDENCE OF NIMAI**



**"NEEM TREE" UNDER WHICH NIMAI APPEARED IN YEAR 1486**





**"NEEM TREE" UNDER WHICH NIAMI APPEARED IN YEAR 1486**



**THEIR LORDSHIPS SRI SRI RADHA-MADHAVA INSTALLED BY SRILA BHAKTIVINODA THAKURA AT YOGAPITHA IN YEAR 1906**





**Lord Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu with His wives Srimati Laxmi Devi Thakurani and Srimati Visnupriya Thakurani**



**"GAURA KUNDA" -**

**The Kunda Where Lord Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu used to take bath daily.  
The stories of this Kunda are compared to Sri Radha-Kunda and Sri Syama-Kunda in  
Vrindavana**





**"GAURA KUNDA" - The Kunda Where Lord Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu used take bath daily. Glories of this Kunda are compared to Sri Radha-Kunda and Sri Syama-Kunda in Vrindavana**

দর্শন করুন

শ্রীলক্ষ্মী নৃসিংহদেবের মন্দির

Visit

Sri Lakshmi Narasimhadev's Temple



বিহুতি

Besides the main temple hall at Yogapitha, there is temple of Sri Sri Gaura-Gadadhara and Lord Lakshmi Nrsimhadeva





**SRI SRI GAURA-GADADHARA**



**SRI SRI LAKSHMI NRSIMHADEVA**





**ANNUAL "NAVADVIPA-MANDALA PARIKRAMA" RETURNS TO MAYAPUR.**

**Devotees from International Party, Bengali Party and Russian Party meet together at Yogapitha at the conclusion of the Navadvipa Mandala Parikrama**



**SRI SRI GAURA-NITAI, The presiding Deities of Sri Navadvipa Mandala Parikrama arrive in Their palanquin at Yogapitha at the conclusion of the Parikrama**





**Devotees from Russian and International party arrive at Yogapitha at the conclusion of the Navadvipa Mandala Parikrama**



**Transcendentalists at Yogapitha**





**Devotees having ecstatic Harinam Sankirtana at the conclusion of Navadvipa Mandala Parikrama**



**Devotees having ecstatic Harinam Sankirtana at the conclusion of Navadvipa Mandala Parikrama**





**"YOGAPITHA"**

*namo maha-vadanyaya  
krsna-prema-pradaya te  
krsnaya krsna-caitanya-  
namne gaura-tvise namah*

*namah* - obeisances; *maha-vadanyaya* - who is most munificent and charitably disposed; *krsna-prema* - love of Krishna; *pradaya* - who can give; *te* - unto You; *krsnaya* - the original Personality of Godhead; *krsna-nitya-namne* - under the name Krishna Caitanya; *gaura-tvise* - whose complexion is the golden complexion of Srimati Radharani; *namah* - obeisances.

**"O most munificent incarnation! You are Krishna Himself appearing as Lord Sri Krishna Caitanya Mahaprabhu. You have assumed the golden colour of Srimati Radharani, and You are widely distributing pure love of Krishna. We offer our respectful obeisances unto You.**

*-Caitanya Caritamrta Madhya Lila 19.53*

### **SCENARIO BEFORE THE APPEARANCE OF LORD CAITANYA**

The Supreme Personality of Godhead, Lord Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu, propagated the essence of all religion for the age of Kali - congregational chanting of Lord Hari's holy name: **"HARE KRISHNA HARE KRISHNA KRISHNA KRISHNA HARE HARE / HARE RAMA HARE RAMA RAMA HARE HARE"**. Accompanied by His associates, He appeared in *Kali-yuga* simply to establish the religious practice of congregational chanting.

According to His desire, His eternal associates appeared before Him, taking birth as humans. Ananta Sesa, Siva, Brahma, the sages, and other associates of the Lord all took birth as highly elevated, pure Vaishnavas. Lord Caitanya, Krishna, knew everyone's position and identity. Most of them took birth in Navadvipa, yet some were born in Orissa, others in the west. All these associates appeared in different places, but everyone met in Navadvipa-Mayapur. The village Ekachakra is in the Radhadesa district of Bengal. The Supreme Lord Nityananda made His appearance there. Lord Nityananda is an ocean of mercy, the shelter of all Vaishnavas and the giver of devotion.

By goddess Sarasvati's grace, residents of Navadvipa of all different ages were learned exponents of the scriptures. The people were proud of their material knowledge. Residents mostly wasted their time spending money for sense pleasures and other worldly affairs. As they grew prouder and more materialistic, people's tastes for devotional service to the Supreme Lord Sri Krishna decreased alarmingly, and in the beginning of *Kali-yuga* they exhibited the qualities of the future. They squandered large sums on the marriages of their sons and daughters, and in this way they wasted their human life.

Even the so-called learned high priests did not know the purpose of the scriptures. Nobody was engaged in explaining the imports of congregational chanting of Lord Krishna's holy name- "the religion of *Kali-yuga*" - they spent their time simply finding faults in others. As for the superstitious so-called renunciates and hermits, not a single name of God ever escaped their mouths. Those considered most pious in society were heard repeating the Lord's name Govinda only once at the time of daily ablution. Devotional perspectives were invariably absent in explaining transcendental literatures like *Bhagavad-Gita* and *Srimad Bhagavatam*.



The devotees of the Lord became distressed seeing the mass of people engrossed in material existence under the external energy of the Lord. How can all these living entities be liberated? They are completely mesmerized by the myth of sense pleasures. Although people were requested to chant Krishna's holy name, they refused and instead they foolishly busied themselves acquiring fruitless material knowledge.

The elevated Vaishnavas continued their devotional activities by worshiping Lord Krishna, and discussing Krishna conscious topics. They became moved to benedict humanity and prayed that Lord Krishna would quickly shower His mercy upon them.

Foremost of the great Vaishnavas in Navadvipa was **Sri Advaita Acarya**. He was preeminent spiritual preceptor and exponent on knowledge of the absolute science of devotion and renunciation. His delineation of Krishna conscious topics equalled Lord Siva's. In all existing scriptures His explanations arrived at the same conclusion-the essence of everything is devotion to Lord Krishna's lotus feet.

Advaita Acarya constantly worshiped Lord Krishna with great devotion, offering *tulasi* blossoms and Ganges water. His intense attachment for Lord Krishna made him bound in loud exaltation, and the sound penetrated the coverings of the material world. In that manner Advaita Acarya spent His days in Navadvipa, where He suffered acute pain in the sight of persons bereft of devotional service. He had a very compassionate nature, He was always thinking of how to liberate the conditioned souls.

"If My Lord descends, He can liberate everyone. I can boast of being an incarnation of Lord Maha-Visnu only if I can convince the Lord of Vaikuntha, Krishna, to appear in this world. And when that Lord of Vaikuntha descends in person, I shall sing and dance in joy and liberate all the conditional souls." Considering matters in this way, He constantly worshiped the lotus feet of Krishna with undeviating resolve.

Each one of the magnanimous devotees executed his spiritual duties and knew nothing besides devotional service to Krishna. They were unaware of their own spiritual entities (*svarupa*), yet they mixed intimately as confidential friends. Wherever they looked they saw a world devoid of devotion, and their hearts were burning with sorrow. They found no one with any taste for the nectar of Lord Krishna's pastimes, so they simply glorified the Lord amongst themselves. The devotees would gather together for several hours in Sri Advaita Acarya's residence discussing topics of Lord Krishna, and in this manner they dispelled their grief. The devotees saw the world burning in the flames of material existence, and there was no place to discuss topics of Krishna consciousness. This caused them great sorrow.

Sri Advaita Acarya and the other Vaishnavas tried to make the people God conscious, but not a soul appreciated them.

Stricken with grief due to people's suffering, Sri Advaita Acarya began fasting, and the Vaishnavas sighed deeply at the situation. "Why sing and dance for Krishna? What is the meaning of congregational chanting of the Lord's holy name? Who are the Vaishnavas?" Gross materialistic people running after wealth and family do not comprehend any of these things. Indeed such atheists only taunt and laugh at the Vaishnavas.

As evening descended, Srivasa Thakura and His three brothers would loudly sing the Lord's name in their house. The atheistic neighbours vilified Srivasa Thakura, pronouncing him mad. They declared that the entire village would be destroyed because of him. The tyrannical Muslim rulers would tear the village apart if they heard people loudly chanting God's name. Some envious neighbours said they would break down Srivasa Thakura's house and float it down the river in order to get rid of him.

Someone said, "Only when Srivasa Thakura leaves will the village be peaceful again. Otherwise the Muslim rulers will torture us."

When the saintly Vaishnavas heard such threats from the atheists they simply accepted and revealed their sorrow to Lord Krishna. Sri Advaita Acarya burned with rage on hearing this news, and, unconcerned with His undressed state, He addressed the Vaishnavas in these words, "Listen Srivasa, Gangadasa, and Suklambara. I shall make Lord Krishna appear before everyone's eyes. Lord Krishna will come personally and liberate everyone. He will take you with Him, and we will all teach the atheists love of the head. And if I fail to keep My promise, I shall manifest My four-handed form and take the disc. I shall sever the heads of all the atheists. Then will it be accepted that Lord Krishna is My Lord and master and I am His proper servitor."

Sri Advaita Acarya continually spoke in this way, and He worshiped the lotus feet of Lord Krishna with a solemn vow. All the devotees also worshiped Lord Krishna's lotus feet with great attention and continuous tears.

Sri Jagannatha Misra, the transcendental personality, resided in Navadvipa, and Vasudeva, Lord Krishna's father, He was always engaged in spiritual activities. He was magnanimous and possessed the best of all brahminical qualities. His dedicated wife, Prīmatī Sacidevi, was the embodiment of devotion to the Supreme Lord. She was the universal mother. All her eight daughters passed away, and she was left with one greatly fortunate son, Visvarupa. Sri Visvarupa was as beautiful and charming as Cupid and the source of joy for His parents. From birth Sri Visvarupa was renounced, and in His childhood He mastered the different scriptures.

**TOVP: The Cosmos out of the Rice Fields:**

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=C5QIX5h8y1w#!](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=C5QIX5h8y1w#!)

**Temple of Vedic Planetarium design:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7GpXIADg2IA>

**Temple of Vedic Planetarium construction update:**

<http://www.lotusimprints.com/new/blog/2011/01/11/tvop-update-views-from-the-top/>

**Shikshastakam: The Moods of Kirtan -** [http://news.iskcon.com/node/3359/2011-01-14/shikshastakam\\_the\\_moods\\_of\\_kirtan](http://news.iskcon.com/node/3359/2011-01-14/shikshastakam_the_moods_of_kirtan)

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